

# The Ellsworth American.

TERMS—\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, LITERATURE AND GENERAL NEWS.

OFFICE IN PETERS' BLOCK.

BY SAWYER & BURR.

ELLSWORTH, MAINE, FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1864.

VOL. X :: NO. 13

## Poetry.

### Our Secret Drawer.

There is a secret drawer in every heart,  
Wherein we lay our treasures one by one;  
Each a remembrance of the buried past;  
Each an enshrined relic of the time that's gone.

The old delights of childhood long ago;  
The things we loved because we knew them best;  
The first discovered primrose in our path;  
The cuckoo's earliest notes, the robin's nest.

The merry haymaking round our home;  
Our ramble in the summer woods and lanes;  
The story told beside the winter fire,  
While the wind moaned across the window panes.

The golden dreams we dreamt in after years,  
Those magic visions of our young romance;  
The sunny nooks the fountain and the flowers,  
Gilding the fairy landscape of our frame.

The link which bound us later still to one  
Who filled the corner in our life to-day,  
Without whose love we dare not dream how dark  
The rest would seem, if it were gone away.

The gift that thrilled our souls with every joy;  
The gentle word that unexpected came;  
The song we prized, because the thought was kind,  
The thousand, thousand things that have no name.

All these in some far hidden corner lie;  
Within the mystery of that secret drawer,  
Whose magic spring through stranger hands may touch,  
Yet none may gaze upon its guarded store.

## Correspondence.

### Editorial Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, April 24, 1864.

DEAR AMERICAN:

There has been considerable inquiry for months past, among our young men who follow the sea as to the grades of service in the U. S. Volunteer Navy, and also as to the prospect of obtaining situations in such service by the meritorious, of our merchant marine. We take the following from the *Congressional Globe*, which gives the doings of the House on Thursday, and the report of the Naval Committee. As the remarks of Mr. Pike explain the effect of the act, nothing further is necessary from us. We will only, therefore, add that the law as it is at present, allows of Acting Ensigns, Acting Masters, and Acting Lieutenants.

The act just passed, increases the list by adding that of Acting Lieut. Commanders, and Acting Commanders. This change in the law will give a chance for the promotion of those Ensigns, Masters and Lieutenants, now in the service, who are deserving, and for the appointment of others to their position, and for the appointment also, of new ones to the service, providing Mr. Secretary Wells obtains the necessary consent to man the vessels now waiting crews.

We add to this, a remark in regard to the way and manner of making an application for positions in the Volunteer Navy, which may not be altogether out of place. The applicant must write an application himself, stating age, sea service, and the position desired. This letter must be accompanied with statements of owners of vessels, in whose service the applicant has sailed, that he is a good seaman, a trustworthy man, and every way worthy of confidence. The Department, as we understand, insists that the applicant shall write his own application as by this it can form some opinion of the capacity of the man. All such applications should be made through the Representative to Congress of the District where the applicant resides:

**APPOINTMENT OF NAVAL OFFICERS.**  
Mr. PIKE, from the same committee reported an act authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to appoint certain officers in the Navy; which was read a first and second time.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Navy, for and during the present insurrection, to appoint acting lieutenant commanders and acting commanders, with the same rate of compensation allowed to officers of the same grade in the Navy. The second section repeals the proviso in section ten of an act to establish and equalize the grade of line officers of the Navy of the United States, approved July 16, 1862.

Mr. PIKE, I will explain the object of this bill. It is, in the first section, to assimilate promotions among officers of the volunteer Navy to promotions among officers of the volunteer Army.

The Secretary of the Navy is now authorized by law to appoint masters, ensigns, masters and lieutenants. This bill authorizes him to appoint two higher grades. And as the Secretary will make the appointments only on account of meritorious service in actual conflict with the enemy, which is now the mode of appointing acting lieutenants, there is no reason why these meritorious officers should not be advanced these two grades; provided they have achieved distinction and done sufficient work to warrant the promotion. That is the object of the first section. The second section makes but one change in the law of 1862. The law of 1862 provides for a transfer of lieutenants from the volunteer service to the regular service, provided that the lieutenants shall have received the thanks of Congress on the recommendation of the President of the United States. In that case of transfer to the regular service the number in that grade, it is provided, shall not be increased. This bill provides that the President may place them in the regular Navy of the same grade they occupied when they distinguished themselves in the volunteer Navy. If there be no objection, I demand the previous question.

Mr. GANSON. I ask the gentleman to yield to me.

Mr. PIKE. I will hear what the gentleman has to say.

Mr. GANSON. I propose an amendment as an additional section.

The Clerk read, as follows:

Sec. 4. That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Navy to designate from the Mississippi squadron and from each coast squadron the officer of whatever rank who is in command of a single vessel captured or destroyed the largest amount of shipping or other property, affixed belonging to or in the service of the enemy, and that the President nominate the persons thus designated, not exceeding one from each squadron, for promotion to the grade next above that which such person shall at the time hold in the Navy of the United States.

Mr. PIKE. As the organ of the Committee on Naval Affairs, I cannot consent to accept that amendment. Not wishing to be discourteous to the gentleman, I will permit the amendment to be presented for the decision of the House.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. PIKE demanded the previous question.

The previous question was seconded, and the main question ordered; and under the operation thereof the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time; and being engrossed, it was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

Mr. PIKE moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed; and also moved that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The latter motion was agreed to.

April 24, 1864.

With a good deal of interest we have daily watched the proceedings of Congress. After the morning hour, each day in the House is devoted to the Bank bill. The speeches to amendments, &c., are limited to five minutes, and consequently the talking members, and the gentlemen who talk for an hour or more, are frequently cut off in the middle of a sentence, which might be characterized as Mr. Benton characterized the Kansas Nebraska bill of which Mr. Douglass was the author, as "having a lie in its mouth and a stump speech in its belly." The opposition members seem to be on the *qui vive* to discover an opportunity to address a word for the edification and comfort of that large constituency that reside in the notable district of Bancroft. For once there was unanimity in the House yesterday on a resolution introduced by Hon. Henry Winter Davis, in regard to Mexico. The opposition members desired to make the declaration more emphatic and war-like—they wanted, probably, to re-enact the 54-40 farce, but the good sense and moderation of the majority prevailed, under the able leadership of Mr. Davis, and the resolution passed, we think, unanimously.

In the Senate Mr. Howe made a long speech, and judging from what we heard it was an able and searching one. That body was fuller in numbers while Mr. Howe was speaking than it was the other while Senator Davis of Kentucky was making one of his interminable harangues. He always clears the Senate above and below.

One of the puzzling things to me, is how a member can go on talking for hours to empty seats, going through all the gesticulations, &c. &c., as if he were speaking to adoring thousands. Such people must possess brilliant imaginations, and therefore go through these oratorical efforts in some higher sphere of being. For a dull matter of fact, utilitarian sort of man, it must be a stupid kind of business. The Finance Committee of the Senate is the most important committee of Congress. We need not say to a Maine man that our favorite Senator, Fessenden, is chairman of this committee. All appropriate bills are passed by this committee, and have to undergo the scrutiny and searching examination of the chairman. Nothing relating to the appropriation of money passes without undergoing his careful examination. When these bills are perfected, then upon the chairman devolves the duty of explaining them in detail and urging their passage. Among these bills are some involving hundreds of millions of dollars.

The Deficiency bill, the Pension, the Military Academy, Consular and Diplomatic, and Post Office bills have already passed the Senate. The Navy, Legislative, Executive and Judicial bills have passed the House, and been passed upon by the committee on Finance in the Senate, and are now pending in the Senate. The Army bill has passed the House and is now being considered by the Senate Finance committee. The Indian bill and the Ratification bill are now pending in the House. In addition to the usual appropriation bills, this committee has in charge, the Tariff bill, bill for Excise taxes, Treasury notes, Bank bills, &c. The clerk of this committee is Hon. Amos Pickard of Hampden. His long experience here has made him an invaluable adjust of the committee.

Some say the quickest way to destroy weeds is to marry a widow. It is no doubt, a most agreeable species of husbandry.

## The Return of Col. Tilden to his Regiment.

MEANS EDITORS:—Feeling assured that anything concerning the hero who forms the subject of this article, and who so lately escaped from the Libby Prison at Richmond, would be eagerly perused by your numerous readers, I propose briefly to record the "doings" connected with the noble and hearty reception extended to him by his regiment, the 16th Me., of which I acknowledge myself proud to be a member.

Col. Tilden, it will be remembered, was captured together with most of his regiment, in the first days' fight at Gettysburg while covering the retreat of the 21st division 1st corps, and nobly obeying the orders of the General commanding, "to stand till the last moment." I need not recount the sufferings endured by him during nearly eight months of captivity, or the story of his escape to Gen. Butler's lines, but will proceed at once to describe the manner of his reception and the festivities accompanying it, which have made the 28th and 29th days of March 1864, memorable in the history of the regiment, and never to be forgotten by any who participated in them.

Our brigade lies at Mitchell's Station, or in other words at the extreme front, where we can plainly see the camps of our neighbors, the rebels, about three miles away, on the other side of the Rapidan. One train of cars runs to Mitchell's Station daily arriving at about four o'clock P. M. Knowing that Col. Tilden was to arrive on the 28th, the regiment was formed on the parade ground a little before the time the train was due, and impatiently awaited the appearance of the returning hero; and, when, escorted by Maj. Leavitt and Adjutant Small, our long absent Colonel rode up in front of the regiment, led by Lt. Col. Farham, we burst forth in three of the loudest, heartiest, and most wholesome cheers that ever poured forth from six hundred throats at one time. Col. Tilden, whose heart, as one officer remarked, "is as big as a fireplace," was so affected that he could only express his thanks at this proof of affection; he rode along the line and took each officer by the hand, during which time the band played several airs appropriate to the occasion. In the evening Col. Tilden was welcomed by the officers of the brigade, at brigade headquarters, where in the greetings of those with whom he had shared the dangers of the battlefield, he received fresh proof of the respect and esteem in which he is held by his brother officers.

At half past nine on Tuesday morning the 23rd, the non-commissioned officers and privates fell in, and under the direction of the Sergeant Major, marched to regimental headquarters and presented to Col. Tilden a splendid horse, saddle and bridle, the whole costing three hundred and seventy dollars. Almost overcome by his emotions, the Col. in broken words expressed his thanks, and when the Chaplain stepped forth and in a short, earnest and appropriate prayer, thanked God for preserving the life and returning safe to us our beloved commander, but few could refrain from tears. The Colonel then repeated the old members of the regiment, those with whom he had marched, with whom he had faced death on the field of battle, and part of whom had been captured with him, to step to the front that he might take each by the hand. This affecting scene none who witnessed will ever forget. The presentation being over, the festivities of the day commenced with a game of ball by the officers. Lieut. Col. Farham and Maj. Leavitt "chose up" and the game commenced in earnest and was carried through in a manner that proved some of our officers to be adepts in the amusement. The game was won by the Major, but a race was to determine who should possess the prize, and amidst laughing and shouting this came off. Lieut. Thompson of Co. G, otherwise known as "Bo" coming in ahead. This was followed by a bag race, the runners being encased in tight fitting bags, and presenting a most ludicrous and mirth provoking appearance as they hopped and waddled along towards the goal. Then came a foot race with prizes of seven five and three dollars. The next game consisted in gathering singly and depositing in a box placed one rod from the first stone, twenty stones placed in a row one rod apart. Then followed these invariable accompaniments of such gala days, a greased pig and greased pole. All these games were entered into with as much zest and caused as much sport as though we had been in Maine instead of where the rebels with a glass could see our performance. In the evening the officers partook of a splendid supper in the chapel. The table was laid in a style that would have done credit to any city in Maine. The repast was followed by the usual round of toast and sentiment. The festivities were closed on the 30th, by a dinner given by the officers to the non-commissioned staff, sergeants and members of the band, and in order that you may judge of its richness, I will simply state that the dessert consisted in part of oranges, apples, candies, nuts, raisins and champagne. The pleasant occasion was truly an episode in army life, an oasis in the desert like the home he has left and the circle of those nearest to him. The benedictions that cluster round his lifeless form, the thrill of grief that run through many hearts in many homes when the news of his death came, are the best tribute to the memory of a good man gone to his reward—of a brave man who fought the battle of life well, and won a victor's crown.

Sir, his place is henceforth amid the glorious activities of other spheres, but the sacred work to which he devoted himself is still unfinished. The burden he has laid down other hands must take up.

Brothers and comrades, on you it is falling. On you the proud voice of your country is calling. While the lot of the balance is trembling on high.

It was the beginning of the time of transition. The seed which had been sown in obscure places, and had grown almost unknown, was beginning to put forth fruit for the harvest. Not only science and religion were protesting against the wrongs of slavery, but an enlightened common sense was touching the people that in denying the rights of others they were losing their own. The emancipation of the slave power became a burning issue. Mr. Lovett was the champion sent from his district to the Thirty-fifth Congress to protect and oppose. How well he did both you know; and the night that mourn him to-day through the length and breadth of the loyal States do not need that I should tell. By word and deed, by keen wit and sharp logic, by eloquent passion and most searching denunciation, he made his presence felt here as few have been felt, and sent his words like a trumpet-blast to stir the hearts of those outside these walls. And he was singularly happy that beginning amid so much opposition and contempt he lived to see the monstrous wrong against which he had waged ceaseless warfare humbled and wounded to death.

It is hard to have been worth years of common life to stand in this Hall as he did on the memorable occasion referred to by his colleague, (Mr. WASHINGTON) after having repeatedly endured the insults and felt the oppression exercised against those who battled for freedom and the right of free speech; to stand here, with the consciousness of power, and say as he said to those who vainly attempted to silence him, "You shall not silence me." I stand here to say what I have to say about the great crime of the nation. I will not yield the floor." Those who saw the determined face, the compact, erect form, and the uplifted hand, motionless for five minutes amid the turmoil of opposing voices, well knew the earnestness of the declaration and the stern will that underlay it.

It is hard to have been worth years of common life to stand in this Hall as he did on the memorable occasion referred to by his colleague, (Mr. WASHINGTON) after having repeatedly endured the insults and felt the oppression exercised against those who battled for freedom and the right of free speech; to stand here, with the consciousness of power, and say as he said to those who vainly attempted to silence him, "You shall not silence me." I stand here to say what I have to say about the great crime of the nation. I will not yield the floor." Those who saw the determined face, the compact, erect form, and the uplifted hand, motionless for five minutes amid the turmoil of opposing voices, well knew the earnestness of the declaration and the stern will that underlay it.

campaign, in cutting their way into Richmond as our Colonel was in escaping therefrom.

FRANK WIGGIN,  
Co. H. 16th Me. Vols.

## Miscellaneous.

### Hon. Owen Lovejoy.

We copy the following remarks of Hon. F. A. PIKE, before the U. S. House of Representatives, on the death of Hon. OWEN LOVEJOY of Illinois.

"Mr. Speaker, there are moments when we are arrested by the stern grasp of the thought that in the purposes of the Almighty, man is as nothing. The earnest worker, the brave fighter, the strong thinker in the ripeness of his years and the fullness of his powers, is stricken from the field of his labor where his work seems but half done. He departs and the earth knows him no more, but the work of God goes on.

We have satisfaction from his thought as we have beside this grave, and, missing our friend and brother, look back upon what he has done to link his life with ideas that are eternal, how he wrought his life-work, how he endured its burdens, how brave he was, how cheerful, how hopeful when the skies were dark and the tempest threatened, and how firmly and calmly he met the shock when the sacred moment came and snatched made its dagger thrust at the nation's life.

I speak of this who from my boyhood knew him well. OWEN LOVEJOY was a native of Maine; born, reared almost within the shadow of those mountains where a stern granite face looking out from the cliff, immovable amid the rage of the elements, unrelenting by the changing seasons or the sweep of years, seem like Heaven's impress set upon New England character. The stock he came of had met the dangers of the wilderness and of war. They could take firm hold of an idea. They could govern their lives by a conviction. They could die for a faith. No wonder, then, this man, with his large heart and busy brain, his strength of will and energy of purpose, when he left New England for his western home at once took rank among the men of influence and power among the minds of other men and were looked to as the exponents of their thought and feeling. The sympathy and interest of his native State followed him to that home not very remote from the spot where his brother's life had been sacrificed in vindicating free speech and a free press.

Those left behind looked to see what he would do. If any man could fight and conquer, and overcome, and conquer an unpopular cause, certainly he might after a terrible example of what the dominant power could do. But he did neither. Going to Illinois to preach, he never forgot to denounce the great crime of the nation, and that without stint. No doubt his words had a large influence in producing the change of public sentiment, which called him from the pulpit to the halls of legislation.

It was the beginning of the time of transition. The seed which had been sown in obscure places, and had grown almost unknown, was beginning to put forth fruit for the harvest. Not only science and religion were protesting against the wrongs of slavery, but an enlightened common sense was touching the people that in denying the rights of others they were losing their own. The emancipation of the slave power became a burning issue. Mr. Lovett was the champion sent from his district to the Thirty-fifth Congress to protect and oppose. How well he did both you know; and the night that mourn him to-day through the length and breadth of the loyal States do not need that I should tell. By word and deed, by keen wit and sharp logic, by eloquent passion and most searching denunciation, he made his presence felt here as few have been felt, and sent his words like a trumpet-blast to stir the hearts of those outside these walls. And he was singularly happy that beginning amid so much opposition and contempt he lived to see the monstrous wrong against which he had waged ceaseless warfare humbled and wounded to death.

It is hard to have been worth years of common life to stand in this Hall as he did on the memorable occasion referred to by his colleague, (Mr. WASHINGTON) after having repeatedly endured the insults and felt the oppression exercised against those who battled for freedom and the right of free speech; to stand here, with the consciousness of power, and say as he said to those who vainly attempted to silence him, "You shall not silence me." I stand here to say what I have to say about the great crime of the nation. I will not yield the floor." Those who saw the determined face, the compact, erect form, and the uplifted hand, motionless for five minutes amid the turmoil of opposing voices, well knew the earnestness of the declaration and the stern will that underlay it.

It is hard to have been worth years of common life to stand in this Hall as he did on the memorable occasion referred to by his colleague, (Mr. WASHINGTON) after having repeatedly endured the insults and felt the oppression exercised against those who battled for freedom and the right of free speech; to stand here, with the consciousness of power, and say as he said to those who vainly attempted to silence him, "You shall not silence me." I stand here to say what I have to say about the great crime of the nation. I will not yield the floor." Those who saw the determined face, the compact, erect form, and the uplifted hand, motionless for five minutes amid the turmoil of opposing voices, well knew the earnestness of the declaration and the stern will that underlay it.

It is hard to have been worth years of common life to stand in this Hall as he did on the memorable occasion referred to by his colleague, (Mr. WASHINGTON) after having repeatedly endured the insults and felt the oppression exercised against those who battled for freedom and the right of free speech; to stand here, with the consciousness of power, and say as he said to those who vainly attempted to silence him, "You shall not silence me." I stand here to say what I have to say about the great crime of the nation. I will not yield the floor." Those who saw the determined face, the compact, erect form, and the uplifted hand, motionless for five minutes amid the turmoil of opposing voices, well knew the earnestness of the declaration and the stern will that underlay it.

## ITEMS, &c.

—Geo. M. Weston is about to start a Fremont paper at Washington.

—Rev. Horatio Stebbins, formerly pastor of the first Unitarian church in Portland, is about to leave for San Francisco, where he will take the place of the late T. Star King. He states that he had agreed with Mr. King to take his place whenever it should be vacated.

—Some wag nominated the "O. P. F." for constable of Lancaster Township, at the recent election. But the ex-president obtained only a small vote from his neighbors for that responsible office. The ballot resulted as follows: Herney, Republican, 67; Buchanan, Anti-Coercionist, 19; McAnchie, Moderate Copperhead, 8.

—The real character of a woman cannot be half so well learned by dancing with her, as by conversing with her at home in all the varied circumstances of domestic life. All women may be good when pleased, but she is most likely to be a really good woman who wants not the fiddle to sweeten her.

—Yankee ingenuity is equal to anything. An ice-merchant in Waltham, Mass., the other day devised a novel method of getting his ice to his warehouse in an inexpensive fashion. He sent down the river an ice-raft, one acre in extent, eighteen inches thick, and weighing sixteen hundred tons; with two horses upon it busily at work, "grooving" a horse and buggy, and the national flag thrown to the breeze.

**HINTS FOR FARMERS.**—A good farmer will never keep more than ten dogs to every five sheep. He will clean out his stable at least once every month. He will keep five or six sticks of wood cut up ahead, more than what is necessary for immediate use. He will not go to town and get on a spree oftener than three times a week, at least in harvest time. He will be very careful not to put up a rail on a line-fence unless his neighbor is there to help him. He will not injure his health by being in bed after a cold. A. M. but will have his cow milked and breakfast over and his men at work as early as ten o'clock. —*Ohio Farmer.*

**The Bangor Jeffersonian** has the "palm" in bear stories. Hear them:

"A few weeks ago a young lad of Prentiss, master Beniah Neal, discovered a bear's nest in a large hollow cedar just across the town line in the Gore. He returned home, and taking another lad with him, returned to the spot. On chopping a hole in the cedar, the bear thrust her head out and was killed by a blow of the axe in her forehead. When they drew her body out, three fat and sleek cubs followed and were killed in succession. This brain family was hibernating in this den, the entrance to which was through the ground under the roots of the cedar. The month was covered with snow and ice."

**Deny the truth of the following item now on its travels:**  
"Red tape is an institution on the Grand Teton. A car load of hay caught fire the other day, and now the story is current that they telegraphed to Montreal for leave to pitch it off the car!"

**PAINTING HOLES.**—Experience has shown us that spring or autumn is the best time to paint surfaces which are very much exposed to the sun. In cold weather it dries slowly, and in hot weather the oil soaks into the wood and the "body" of the paint is easily washed off by rain.

**A REAL GENTLEMAN.**—He never dresses in the extreme of fashion, but avoids singularity in person or habits; is affable with his equals, and pleasant and attentive to his inferiors; in conversation he avoids hasty, ill-tempered or insulting words; never tries to outdo other people's affairs; detests eaves-dropping as one of the most disgraceful of crimes; never slanders an acquaintance; does never, under any circumstances, speak ill of a woman.

**Washington** is now encircled by a cordon of forts and batteries, connected by rifle pits, some forty miles around its entire circumference. About nine hundred cannon are mounted, and military authorities estimate that with twenty-five thousand men an attack of one hundred thousand men could be successfully resisted, while with fifty thousand men the works would be impregnable.

**On his late raid**, passing through Fredericksburg, General Kilpatrick was an unexpected bidder at a slave auction, to which his attention was drawn by the auctioneer's bell. When the sale commenced, with the auctioneer's call, "Who bids?" the General stepped up and "took the lot," and five able-bodied recruits were added to the forces of Uncle Sam.

**A West Indian**, who had a remarkably fiery nose, having fallen asleep in his chair, a negro boy who was in waiting observed a mosquito hovering round his face. Quashey eyed the insect very attentively; at last he saw it alight on his master's nose, and instantly fly off again. "Yah, yah," he exclaimed with great glee, "my berry glad to see you burn your fat."

**NOT DEAD.**—A poor son of the Emerald Isle applied for employment to an avocetous hank, who told him that he should employ no more Irishmen, "for the last one died on my hands, and I was forced to bury him at my own charge." "Ah, yer honor," said pat, "brill tining up," and is that all? Then you'll give me the place, for sure I can get a certificate that I never died in the employ of any master I ever served."

**The Masonic Fraternity** sustained serious and irreparable losses in the late Winchester House Fire. Valuable and highly prized original portraits, the Library of the Grand Lodge, Charters and papers signed by Washington, Warren, Franklin, and other eminent Masons, interesting Masonic documents, jewels, regalia, &c., were among the articles lost. The insurance covers a small portion of the loss, and no money can replace many of the articles destroyed.

**HOW TO PLAY TRICKS.**—A young man was studying at college. One afternoon he walked out with an instructor, they chanced to see an old pair of shoes by the side of the path, belonging to an old man at work near by.

"Let us have a little amusement at his expense," said the student. Suppose we should hide these shoes, and conceal ourselves in the bushes to watch his perplexity when he cannot find them."

"I can think of a better trick than that," said the instructor. "You are rich suppose you put a silver dollar in the toe of each of his shoes, and then we will hide."

The young man did so. The poor man finished work soon, and went to put on his shoes. You can imagine his surprise when he stooped down to take out a pebble, as he supposed, from the toe, and found a bright silver dollar; and when he found still another in the other shoe, his feelings overcame him; he fell upon his knees; looking up to heaven, and uttered a loud and fervent thanksgiving, in which he thanked a kind Providence for some unknown hand to save from perishing his sick and helpless wife, and his children without bread. Do you wonder the young man stood in his hiding place deeply affected. Young friends, when you wish to enjoy real pleasure in witnessing the perplexity of others, see if you cannot, some way, imitate the student.

**CULTIVATE THE SOIL.**—We agree with the Augusta Journal that the "high prices which now rule for all farm products should serve as the strongest motive for putting forth every practical effort to increase production. There is a great demand for laborers to till the soil and this demand should be cheerfully met, up to the full employment of all men who are able to work. Farmers must not, if they would be wise, lessen their forces in the field on account of an increase of wages. Mechanics and manufacturers, and business and professional men, who cannot be employed in the army, should take a new interest in the operations of the field of vegetable culture, at least to the amount of female labor which they may in their several pursuits be able to employ, in order to give their time to cultivating the soil. In this way, thousands of acres in Maine should be put to high farming uses the present season, in the production of vegetables and grains, true patriotism requires this at the hands of all men who desire the welfare of their country. A short crop would be a disaster of saddest effect." —*Whig.*

**A POISON RING.**—The following story is going the rounds of the French papers: A gentleman, who had two days ago purchased some objects of art at a shop in the Rue St. Honore, was engaged in examining an ancient ring, when he gave himself a scratch in the hand with a sharp part of it. He continued talking with the dealer for a short time when he suddenly felt an insupportable sensation over his whole body, which appeared to paralyze all his faculties, and he soon became so seriously ill that it was considered necessary to send for a medical man. The doctor immediately discovered every symptom of poisoning by some mineral substance. He applied strong antidotes, and in a short time the gentleman was in a measure recovered. The ring in question having been examined by the medical man, who had long resided in Venice, was found to be what was formerly called a "death-ring," in use in Italy when acts of poisoning were frequent, about the 17th century. Attached to it inside were two claws of a lion, made of the sharpest steel, and having clefts in them filled with a virulent poison. In a crowded assembly, or in a hall, the wearer of this fatal ring, wishing to exercise revenge on any person, would take their hand, and when pressing it, the sharp claw would be sure to inflict a slight scratch on the skin. This was enough, for on the following morning the victim would be sure to be found dead. Notwithstanding the many years since which the poison on the ring had been placed there, it retained its strength sufficient to cause great inconvenience to the gentleman, as stated.

The Oxford Democrat tells a good story of two members of the House of Representatives of 1849. Shepard Cary and a Mr. Leavitt, usually known as "Old Father Leavitt," Father Leavitt got the impression that if he voted just opposite Cary, he would be sure to be right, and as Cary was called first on the list it gave Leavitt the cue how to vote. One day upon the call of the yeas and nays, Cary for the time being out of his seat, did not answer the first call of the Clerk. This puzzled the old gentleman Leavitt, and when his name was called he hesitated, but finally voted *nay*. But he seemed to be in great doubt, whether he had voted right. At the call for the absentees Cary voted *yea*. At this response Father L. threw up both hands exclaiming, "thank God I am right!" This brought down the house.

**HOUSEHOLD WORDS.**—Pshaw. Stop your noise. Shut up this minute. I'll box your ears. Hold your tongue. Let me be. Go away. Get away. Get out. Behave yourself. I won't. You shall. Never mind. You'll catch it. Don't bother. Come here directly. Put away those things. You'll kill yourself. I don't care. There's mine. Mind your own business. I'll tell you. You mean thing. There I told you so. You didn't. I did. I will have it. O, look what you have done. "Was you. Won't you catch it though? It's my house. Who's afraid of you. Mah-h-h. Boohoo, boohoo, boohoo. What's the matter. Dear me. I never did see in all my born days. Its enough to send one crazy. Would you put a tick in it. Well, says I. Says she. Says they. Bless me. No. Hem it all this way round. Thread housework. Good. Worked crosswise. Trimmed with velvet. Ten yards. Cut bias. Real sweet.

**CURIOUS DISCOVERY.** It is said that Mayor Tiemann, at his paint factory in Manhattanville, has accidentally made a discovery which threatens to revolutionize floriculture. One of the factory hands having thrown some liquid green paint of a particular kind on a flowerbed occupied by white anemones, the flowers have since made their appearance with petals as green as grass. The paint had in it a peculiar and penetrating chemical mixture, which Mr. Tiemann has since applied with other colors, to other plants, annual, biennial, and of the shrub kind—the result being invariably that the flowers so watered took the hue of the liquid deposited at their roots. By commencing experiments early next year, during seed time, and applying different colors, we shall no doubt soon be enabled to "paint the lily," which was Solomon's ambition. —*N. Y. Tribune.*

**A little deaf and dumb girl** was once asked on her state, "What is prayer?" She took the pencil and wrote, "Prayer is the wish of the heart."

## A Roadside Colloquy.

"And so, Squire, you don't take a country paper?"

"No, Major. I get the city papers on much better terms, so I take a couple of them."

"But Squire, the country papers often prove a great convenience to us. The more we encourage them, the better the editors can afford to make them."

"Why, I don't know any convenience they are to me."

"The farm you sold last fall was advertised in one of them, and thereby you obtained a customer. Did you not?"

"Very true, Major; but I paid three dollars for it."

"And you made more than three hundred dollars by it. Now, if your neighbors had not maintained the press and kept it ready for use, you would have been without the means to advertise your property. But I think I saw your daughter's marriage in those papers—did that cost you anything?"

"No, but—"

"And your brother's death with a long obituary notice. And the destruction of your neighbor Riggs' house by fire. You see these things are exaggerated till the authentic accounts of the newspapers set them right."

"O, true, but—"

"And when your cousin Splash was up for the Legislature, you appeared much gratified at his defence—which cost him nothing."

"Yes, yes; but these things are news to the readers. They cause the people to take the paper."

"No, Squire Grudge, not if all were like you. Now I tell you the day will surely come when somebody will write a long eulogy on your life and character, and the printer will put it in type with a heavy black line over it, and with all your riches, this will be done for you as a grave for a pauper. Your wealth, liberality, and all such things will be spoken of, but the printer's boy, as he spells the words in arranging the type to these sayings, will remark of you—"Poor mean devil, he is even sponging an obituary." Good morning "Squire!"

**DOUBLE FIVE.**—Dominoes is not, if played properly, so simple and childish a game as many imagine. The best system is that of "elves," or "cabbage dominoes." For your information we will improvise a game. Let us say the players are A B and C. They have drawn for first play, and A having picked up the domino with lowest "peeps" on it, is entitled to first play. She is fortunate enough to have the 9-6, which she plays, scoring three, because the two ends make a number exactly divisible by 5 three times. B follows, playing the double nine, placing it crossways, to show that it counts double—that is, the two ends represent 18-0 or 24, which is not divisible by 5, and, consequently, B scores











